

Sept. 30, 1943.

Mr. Francis Matthews,
11 Marble St.,
Roxbury 19, Mass.

Dear Matthews:

I am writing in answer to your letter, inquiring about your status in Negro baseball. One of the laws of organized baseball is that a player belongs to the first team with which he plays until he is traded, sold or released. As you know, none of these things have happened in your case.

From the tone of your letter I assume you are interested in playing professional baseball again, if so, we will be very glad to learn this and assure you will be offered a contract next year by the Eagles, or something will have been done so you will be free to play with another team. We have no desire or intention to try to keep you from playing ball, in fact we would like to feel that all the good ball players around will be available for the fans to see.

I would appreciate hearing from you, if you will be interested in playing next year.

Very truly yours,

EM:CCJ